Educational loan

474. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the students are facing problems in getting educational loans through public sector banks causing obstruction in their higher studies;

(b) if so, what are the remedies proposed by Government to ease the formalities to enable the students to avail educational loan for their higher studies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The performance of Public Sector Banks under Education Loan Scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) shows continuous growth in educational loans, in terms of amount, as well as, number of accounts. As per data of IBA, the total outstanding amount under education loans of Public Sector Banks as on 31st March, 2009 stood at Rs. 27646 crore, in 16,03,385 accounts.

The increase in total loans outstanding over 31st March, 2008, in absolute and percentage terms, was Rs. 7829 crore and 39% respectively.

Similarly, the number of accounts increased by 3,56,515 registering a growth of about 29% during the same period.

Further, in order to provide better services to students across the country, the Public Sector Banks have been advised to institute an on-line system, not to reject/ pass on loan applications to other banks/branches on the grounds of age/ area of operation. The performance of Public Sector Banks under Education Loan Scheme is reviewed in quarterly meetings of Finance Minister with Chief Executives of Banks.

Fake currency in ATM of banks

475. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after ATM and strong rooms of scheduled banks, fake currency has been found in Reserve Bank of India (RBI) which has all means to detect the same;

(b) if so, how a common man is expected to detect the same while withdrawing money from banks and Government agencies;

(c) what are the protections available to innocent persons in such cases;

(d) whether Government can produce its own indigenous currency paper and ink different from imported ones to stop circulation of fake currency; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI), New Delhi had detected 296 pieces of counterfeit notes while examining the notes received from the currency chests and the notes received across counters from the public in the month of September 2009. The denomination wise details of such counterfeits detected are given below:

Denomination	Total pieces
Rs.50	67
Rs.100	150
Rs.500	60
Rs. 1,000	19
TOTAL	296

As per the prescribed procedure, RBI New Delhi filed an FIR on October 8, 2009 with the SHO, Police Station Parliamentary Street, New Delhi.

(b) and (c) As a part of awareness campaign, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has placed on its web site (www.rbi.org.in) extensive information on security features of Indian Banks notes. Banks are required to display posters on "Know Your Banknotes" at bank branches, A film on 'Know Your Banknotes' got prepared by RBI through Films Division, has been supplied across their issue offices/Currency Chests, public utilities, theatres and other media for screening. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised all the banks that they should ensure that only properly sorted and examined bank notes are put into circulation through counters and ATMs. In case a counterfeit note is detected in the cash received by the branch/treasury across the counter the same is impounded and forwarded to local police authorities for investigation by filing an FIR.

(d) and (e) Government is producing Currency paper in Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad but the quantity so produced is not enough to meet the requirement. Therefore security paper is being imported from various countries. Action for setting up of more currency paper manufacturing units has been Initiated to meet most of the requirement. Similarly ink is produced at Bank Note Press, Dewas which produced 228 MT of intaglio ink during 2008-09 which represents 20% of the total consumption.

EMI calculation methods

476. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the method adopted by banks and finance companies for calculating Equated Monthly Instalments (EMI's) is not transparent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the loanee's are not informed of the method adopted by lending institutions; and